



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

July 3, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Venessa A. Keesler, Ph. D. 
Deputy Superintendent, Education Services

SUBJECT: Changes in Verification Activities for Special Education

Pursuant to Section 300.600 of the regulations implementing the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*, states are required to monitor all school districts for compliance with the law and its regulations and then issue findings.

As part of the requirement for general supervision, the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Memorandum 09-02, dated October 17, 2008, requires that the State report that it verified each local education agency (LEA) with noncompliance; and then report the following: 1) is correctly implementing the specific regulatory requirements (i.e., achieved 100% compliance) based on a review of updated data such as data subsequently collected through on-site monitoring or a State data system; and 2) has corrected each individual case of noncompliance, unless the child is no longer in the jurisdiction of the LEA.

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and The Office of Special Education (OSE), are currently participating in a Performance Review Audit conducted by the Michigan Office of Auditor General (OAG). A preliminary finding from the OAG shows that there are inconsistencies with verifying correction of noncompliance at the system level and the student level. As such, the OSE will be implementing a new system to verify correction of noncompliance at the system level as well as at the student level.

The new system will require Intermediate School District (ISD) Monitors, to upload verification of correction of student level noncompliance into the Continuous Improvement and Monitoring System (CIMS) Workbook. The OSE will then verify the correction of noncompliance and will indicate the correction in the CIMS Workbook.

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In regards to corrective action plans that occur for Indicators B-3 (assessment), B- 11 (Child Find), B-12 (Part C to B Transition), B-13 (Secondary Transition), timely individualized education programs, and timely, valid and reliable data, the OSE will also verify correction of noncompliance for system level noncompliance discovered. We will again require ISD monitors to upload documentation of the correction of noncompliance and the OSE will notify the district through the CIMS Workbook whether the noncompliance was corrected or there is further follow up.

Thank you for the all of the hard work each of you do to improve student outcomes for the students in the State of Michigan.

If you have any concerns, contact Jeanne Anderson Tippet, with your specific questions, at andersontippetj@michigan.gov. Thank you for your prompt attention to this urgent matter.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance